ABSTRACT

A detector including a base having a recess formed therein and a diaphragm generally extending across the recess. The detector further includes an infrared sensitive component or a piezoelectric or piezoresistive element located on, above or supported by the diaphragm. The diaphragm includes a material which is generally resistant to liquid chemical etchants and which has a thermal conductivity of less than about 0.005 Wcm⁻¹K⁻¹.